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Washington, D. C. 20505

12 April 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Honorable William J. Perry
Chairman, IR&D Council
Department of Defense

SUBJECT: IR&D Council Chairman's Report ☐

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1. Let me express my appreciation for your report on behalf of the IR&D Council for 1978 ☐ I read this with considerable interest and commend you and the Council for a productive year's effort. ☐

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2. I look forward to hearing from you periodically on the important schedule of activities you have laid out for 1979. Let me say that your in-depth review of R&D investment planning is the one topic that interests me particularly. I am vitally concerned that we maintain our technological lead over the Soviet Union in intelligence collection and production capabilities. I am genuinely concerned as to whether our levels of funding for R&D are adequate to ensure that. There is always the temptation to borrow on tomorrow in order to pay for today. I would greatly appreciate your advice as we enter the FY '81 budget cycle as to whether you feel we are giving adequate priority to R&D investment. ☐

3. Again, thanks for your support. ☐

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STANSFIELD TURNER

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